UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.4/1998/L.10/Add.19
6 April 1998

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 26

REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON THE FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

Rapporteur: Mr. Roman KUZNIAR

CONTENTS*

Chapter

XIX. DRAFTING OF A DECLARATION ON THE RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY OF INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS AND ORGANS OF SOCIETY TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

* Documents E/CN.4/1998/L.10 and addenda will contain the chapters of the report relating to the organization of the session and the various items on the agenda. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission, as well as draft resolutions and decisions for action by, and other matters of concern to, the Economic and Social Council, will be contained in documents E/CN.4/1998/L.11 and addenda.

GE.98-11744 (E)

XIX. DRAFTING OF A DECLARATION ON THE RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY OF INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS AND ORGANS OF SOCIETY TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

1. The Commission considered agenda item 19 at its 29th to 31st meetings, on 2 and 3 April 1998. 1/

2. For the documents issued under agenda item 19, see annex IV to the present report. For a list of all resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission and Chairman's statements, by agenda item, see annex V to the present report.

3. At the 29th meeting, on 2 April 1998, the Chairman-Rapporteur of the working group on the draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, Mr. Jan Helgesen, introduced the report of the working group on its thirteenth session (E/CN.4/1998/98).

4. In the general debate on agenda item 19, statements 2/ were made by the following members of the Commission: Canada (29th), Chile (29th), China (29th), Cuba (29th), El Salvador (30th), Pakistan (30th), South Africa (29th), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the European Union, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia) (29th), United States of America (29th), Venezuela (29th).

5. The Commission heard statements by the observers for: Australia (29th), Egypt (29th), Lithuania (30th), New Zealand (30th), Nigeria (30th), Norway (29th). The observer for Switzerland also made a statement (30th).

6. The Commission also heard statements by the following non-governmental organizations: African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters (30th), American Association of Jurists (30th), Franciscans International(30th), Human Rights Internet (30th), International Federation of Human Rights Leagues (joint statement with World Organization against Torture) (30th), International Service for Human Rights (joint statement with Amnesty International, Article XIX Asian Cultural Forum on Development, Association for the Prevention of Torture, Baha'i International Community, Food First Information and Action Network, Franciscans International, International Commission of Jurists, International Federation of ACAT (Action of Christians for the Abolition of Torture) and ACAT-Mexico, International Human Rights Law Group, International Indian Treaty Council, International Movement against all

Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defence of Women's Rights, Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees, Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights, Movement against Racism and for Friendship among Peoples, Pax Christi International, United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom) (30th), Tunisian Mothers' Association (30th), World Movement of Mothers (30th).

Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms

7. At the 31st meeting, on 3 April 1998, the observer for Norway introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1998/L.18, sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Venezuela. Angola, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Botswana, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, India, Israel, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Uruguay subsequently joined the sponsors.

8. A statement in explanation of vote before the vote was made by the representative of Cuba.

9. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1998/7.